

**May/June
2006**

Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From the Administrative Assistant Nancy

Omaha Public Library, Washington Branch

There is just something about new, and that's no fooling. On April Fool's day I went to the grand re-opening of the Washington Branch, OPL. Yes, the floor is slate and the wood is gorgeous, but I overheard someone say, "This is way cool, but the key for me is books."



Walking past the circulation desk, which is approachable from all four sides, the first thing I noticed was a large sign - "The Spot." Opening the door

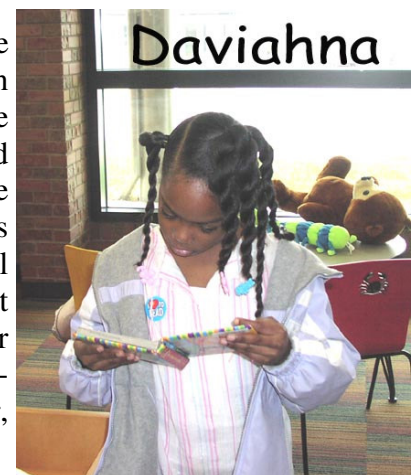
I entered the teen area. Besides the large windows, the wall separating it from the main library is totally glass. There is a large flat panel screen, surround sound, and a separate "teen conference room." The children's section is very large and set off by brightly colored carpet squares of the alphabet and numbers. This branch's clientele is mostly children and teens and they have accommodated both groups very well.

The latest technology is evident in the computer lab and public access area. The two sections are divided by a moveable wall for variable class sizes. I really liked the lab instructor's raised desk and computer (I could see myself up there!)



Large meeting rooms are across the hall from each other and double for storytime and special program space. Even on grand opening day Mary, Hilda and Pam were busy cutting things for activities later in the day.

As the time for the program and ribbon cutting neared, people from the neighborhood began to gather. The North High Singers performed and several dignitaries spoke, but the main attraction for most was former rapper and now TV star, Ice-T.



Even all of the whoopla didn't deter Daviahna from doing what she came to the library to do.

I visited with John Bernardi, branch manager, who was visibly proud of this day and this library. He had asked all of the OPL youth and children's librarians to attend if at all possible. They helped with tours of the library and demonstrations of the express checkout. John said, "there is a real emphasis on children and youth at this library. I asked City Councilman, Frank Brown, for his thoughts. "This is a great day for North Omaha but it will be an even greater day when even more kids begin using the library."



Storybook characters roamed through the crowd, met with hugs and smiles.

The library was named for Charles B. Washington, a beloved civil rights advocate known for his work with young people in the community. After the ribbon cutting a bronze bust of Mr. Washington, done by artist Littleton Alston, was unveiled and is a focal point of the library.

Yes, I did get an autograph from Ice-T. He is a favorite of mine on the show "Law and Order." Just as the poster of him that was handed out said, "You never know who you'll meet at the library."



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Connect, Click and Listen!

by Kathy Tooker

As we all know technology changes so fast it seems we can never keep up. Right now, the “in” technology are iPods and MP 3 players. No bigger that a slim pack of playing cards, these players are capable of carrying hundreds of songs and several full-length books plus you can still listen to a recorded podcast from your favorite radio or TV station. They are being used in education to deliver lectures, conferences, etc. Practically every kid has ear buds stuck in their ears while they dial up their favorite tunes downloaded from iTunes or a CD. Libraries are also offering audio book service. Customers come in with their own player and plug it into a computer and download selected books. How handy would this be able to take five or six books on one a MP3 player when you go on vacation instead of weighing down your suitcase or duffle bag with books? Like all new technology, there are some problems. Some of us can remember the VHS or Beta dilemma years ago; the downloading process is different for iPods and MP3 players.

While some Nebraska libraries are already offering this service, many have not yet tried it. The Nebraska Regional Library Systems have received an LSTA grant from the Nebraska Library Commission to introduce more libraries to downloadable audio book technology. Each system will have one or more of each type of player loaded with five or six audio books to lend to you, our system members. After some simple training, you can then try the technology in your library and lend them to your customers. You may decide this is a service you want to offer on a permanent basis. It gives libraries an opportunity to try something new without risk.

Stay tuned for more information coming on this project. Right now we are in the process of selecting players, audio books vendors, and in some cases, learning how to use the technology ourselves!

Trustee Tips

“The most important people in the library profession” was the title of an article in *American Libraries* years ago by Will Manley, author and former library director. It still holds true today. The board of trustees is responsible for the governing of the board. With this in mind, the selection of interested, responsible, creative, open-minded, people who are willing to learn, be advocates, and devote time and energy to the board is of prime importance. In all most every community, trustees are appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council. However, many times the library director and/or the current board members are asked for suggestions.

Here are some strategies that might help identify and recruit potential board members that have the skills and expertise needed to move the library's goals and vision forward.

- **Keep a list of possible board members.**
- **Ask each retiring trustee to suggest several names for the board.**
- **Ask members of the Friends group, staff, and other library supporters.**
- **Keep in mind that a board needs diversity. While members of the same age, sex, ethnic background and interests may make for a congenial board, it may not be what is required for an effective board.**
- **Look for people with varied experiences and backgrounds.**
- **Look for people with a passion for libraries.**
- **If the board has a committee structure, invite potential members to serve on a committee.**
- **Develop a job description and an application form. People interested in becoming a trustee should know what is expected of them.**

On a final note, make sure that new board members receive a good orientation so they can get up to speed quickly in order to be able to make educated decisions on how to best govern the library. Trustees are a vital link to the community.

System News



We have *Library Sparks*!

ELS now subscribes to *Library Sparks*, a monthly publication from Upstart. In each issue are lessons, story-times, activities, freebies, hints, calendar, plus news on children's books. If you would like to get on the routing list either call the system office or email us (see page 2) and we will put you on the list.

Gretna Public Library

Tim Tingle, a Choctaw Indian performed for 100 people from the ages of 3 to 85 at the Gretna Public Library, and they were all spellbound. He accompanied his stories with instruments and music. His book, "Crossing Bok Chitto," is a story about a Choctaw girl who befriends a slave boy in the 1800s. Tim has an interesting web site - www.Choctaw.com.



Retirements



It is with sadness that we say goodbye to two wonderful ELS librarians. We wish only the very best and hope to see them "around."

Leola Bonge, Bennington Public Library

"I started at the Bennington Public Library in 1988. I always remember a birthday gift to me from my parents when I was about 7 years old. It was a library card. Our library in Plainview had wood floors and an old regulator clock. I can still remember the sounds of that library. During the Bennington Centennial, we sold commemorative clocks and I asked the board for permission to purchase one. It chimes and, hopefully, there might be one or more children using the library who will have memories of the sounds from the Bennington Public Library. The most rewarding thing about being a librarian has been meeting so many wonderful families and having the opportunity to see children grow from board books to novels as they continue to visit the library.

Most stressful has been dealing with unattended kids on our public internet computers. I have worn a bunny costume, a witch costume and numerous other outlandish attire over the years to promote library events. I've been joking that with all my free time I would finally have an opportunity to clean and organize my house as I can't seem to throw anything away. I am involved with the General Federation of Women's Clubs and will be serving on the 2006-2008 Board as an International Liaison to host delegates at our conventions in 2007 and 2008. Then there are always the granddaughters to spend time with...tea parties, books, movies, picnics and overnight visits. My all time favorite book is *Gone With the Wind*." [Leola may have time to re-read that lengthy novel now.]

Joan Chesley, Keene Memorial Library Fremont

"I started at Keene as Children's Librarian in April of 1995. Before that I was director of the North Bend Public Library but being a children's librarian enables me to be with the two things I like best in this world - children and books. I've always been a book-aholic, and could never imagine anyone's life without the exquisite pleasure of reading. So, of course, I wanted to convert every single child to love reading and books as much as I do. I loved all my contacts with children. I love the way they respond when they hear a silly story, or hear what a story can be. What a privilege it is to work with kids who have such a passion for fairness especially when they make a place in their lives for you. Humbling and rewarding too, is having an 18-year-old tell you how some small insignificant thing you did a decade ago made a difference in their lives. Last, but certainly not least, what a privilege it has been to work with my peers, the children's librarians who continue to be advocates for children, and in so many cases, role models and inspiration for me. There are always painful moments but it does seem that good things come out of them. Painful is being on stage before a group of people ready to do a puppet show, *The Squirrel Who Was Afraid of High Places*, and having one of the puppeteers whispering, 'Joan, we can't find the squirrel!'

I plan to continue story telling, reading and puppeteering to schools and groups. I plan to clean my house. I plan to put in a gazebo and possibly a deck. I plan to sleep for a month. I plan to get a little dog. I also hope to travel and keep contact with all the friends I made in librarianship.

I tend to like authors such as Sharon Shinn, Anthony Horowitz, T.A. Barron, Terry Trueman...maybe I will even read some adult books now."

more system news.....

Omaha Public Library - volunteer extraordinaire, Lorri Juarez, started as a volunteer in 1999 in the children's department at the Omaha Public Library's W. Dale Clark (Main) Branch. For the last three years she has coordinated the book displays, glass-case displays and bulletin boards. Lorri's displays are very creative and entice people to stop and pick up a book. She changes the displays about twice a month. She is also involved with the Read-With-Me program where library volunteers read books and provide crafts for children in area daycares. Multiple sclerosis forced Lorri to leave a job licensing child care facilities for the state several years ago but she has not let the disease stop her from contributing her time and energy to the library and community.

Annual Meeting Scholarships Available

If you have never attended an ELS Annual Meeting, do consider coming this year. The workshops and speakers are outstanding and you will certainly enjoy the day. And....for first-time attendees, scholarships are available. We will pay the \$20 registration fee for five people. Go to the ELS website to print off an application. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern/ScholarshipPolicy.htm>



Baright Public Library, Ralston

The band, Harry and the Potter's, came to library and played in front of a full house.



Congratulations
to Sally Snyder, NLC Coordinator of
Children and Young Adult Library Services, for
obtaining her MLS degree.

Encouragement Goes A Long Way

by Nancy Meyer



The Paraprofessional Section of NLA held their Spring Meeting via videoconference in March. Our theme was "Encourage Someone @ your library®." I enjoyed each session and wanted to share my thoughts with you.

Encouraging community participation in the library and its programs is a win-win situation. I loved the idea of giving a bib with "Read To Me" printed on it to anyone who brings their new baby to the library within the 1st year. You should invite the Girl and Boy Scout troops to hold their meetings in your library. Their food drives and other projects will bring people into your library and you may get the Scouts to help you with something too. Book clubs do not have to be the sole responsibility of the staff. Have an interested reader start one, and watch new members become new patrons. Not enough books for a book club? Choose an author or a genre as a common read. Encouragement comes with challenges. People want something from a library, give them what they want. What a library lacks in curb appeal or in an automated system, it can more than make up with great customer service. It is true that the little things can and do make a huge difference.

Encouraging from within the library, your fellow workers and yourself can be as simple as a word of support and as difficult as a change of attitude. When we compare ourselves and our library to others who are bigger and have more money we stop trying to be the best we can be. Really, it's the community's library. We're not in charge, we're just the facilitators. So, don't be limited by your job description, spend your energy looking within to see what more you can offer.

Mentoring is another "encouragement" tool, especially to those pursuing degrees in library science. Whether we are seeking a mentor or are a mentor, the excitement for what you are doing right where you're at makes all the difference.



Resources For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists

To interlibrary loan a copy of the following book lists call the system office at 402-330-7884 or e-mail Nancy (nrmeyer@alltel.net) or Kathy (ktooker@alltel.net).

Graphic Novel for Really Young Readers (*School Library Journal*, March 2006).

Core Collection: Great Graphic Novels for Younger Readers (*Booklist*, March 15, 2006).

Top 10 Graphic Novels for Youth (*Booklist*, March 15, 2006).

Best Science Fiction, Fantasy, & Horror 2005 (*VOYA*, April 2006).

Grab Them! Books With Real Guy Appeal (compiled by Kathleen Baxter for PLA program, March 2006).

Top Ten Books for Young Adults and Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers (*VOYA*, April 2006.)

The system office has a video tape and a DVD copy of the Patrick Jones workshop held in December 2005. You may also borrow a DVD copy of the Terrific After-School Programs for K–Grade 5 teleconference. Please contact the office if you would like to borrow a copy of either program.

Celebrate Margaret Wise Brown's birthday this month who was born on May 23, 1910. *Goodnight Moon* and *Runaway Bunny* are favorites of small children today, perhaps because Brown tried to write the way children wanted to hear stories. For help planning a Margaret

Wise Brown birthday party, visit www.track0.com/wisebrown/frameindex.html for activities and resources.

There are so many educational and fun web sites for kids and young adults. Check out The Association for Library Service to Children site at <www.ala.org/alsc.alsc.org>. Be a kid again and try The Yuckiest Site on the Internet <www.yucky.com>. The Nebraska Library Commission also has a list of wonderful sites and resources for children at <www.nlc.state.ne.us>; click on Best of the Web and then on Resources for Children and Young Adult Librarians.

Fun ideas to try in your library or media center:

- Let kids read to pay off fines. The goal is increase reading skills and to make reading an enjoyable and enriching experience, not a punishment.
- Start a puzzle and leave it on a table. No one can resist trying to find a piece.
- Crossword puzzles can also be fun. Let kids create their own at this site that also has other kinds of puzzles <puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com>.
- Interesting things here for ESL Students, <www.manythings.org> has word games, puzzles, exercises, pod casts and much plus many more activities.

One of the most frequently challenged authors of the past decade has two books on ALA's 2005 most challenged list. Robie H. Harris's *It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex and Sexual Health* tops the list and *It's So Amazing! A Book about Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, and Families* in number 10 on the list. ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom received 405 challenges this year. OIF estimates only one in four or five challenges are reported to them.

Websites of Interest

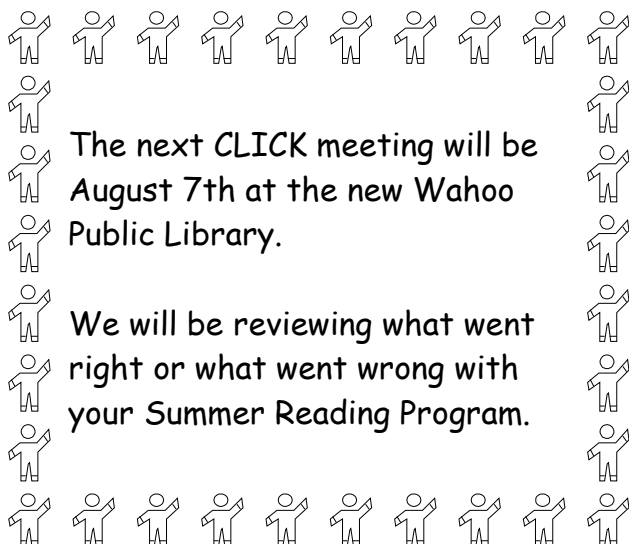
At the last CLICK (children's librarians) meeting we talked about good websites and the great information and ideas they have. Here is a list. Try them.

allmovie.com (find a movie)
stepbystepcc.com (preschool site)
lii.org (Librarian's Internet Index)
overduemedia.com (formerly Unshelved)
story-lovers.com (find a story and other stuff)
eyedr.org/ (click on the bears)
angelfire.com/comics/gnlib (graphic novels)
multcolib.org/talk/guides (discussion guides)
coloring.ws (coloring pages and activities)
enchantedlearning.com (crafts)
rinkworks.com/bookaminute (hilarious)

Recommend for kids to use:

ajkids.com (ask Jeeves for kids)
kidsclick.org (links to topics)
school.discovery.com (homework help)
homeworkspot.com (more homework help)
scholastic.com (good Harry Potter site)
timeforkids.com (current events)
congressforkids.net (basics of government)

Want to have a party? Go to this site and find everything you need (children 3 and up).
<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/waber/funwithlyle.shtml>.



The next CLICK meeting will be August 7th at the new Wahoo Public Library.

We will be reviewing what went right or what went wrong with your Summer Reading Program.

Summer Reading Challenge

Reading is Fundamental (RIF) and Target® are offering a Summer Reading Challenge. Go to www.rif.org/summer to get more information. By tracking reading hours online you can win a Target® Gift Card. Plus, there are lots of activities and games on this website. Different age groups have different goals to attain and all online users must have parental consent. This in no way should substitute for the library's summer reading program, however, for those avid readers who want to take on another challenge this might be a good addition.

Attachments To Avoid

[*Smart Computing*, February, 2006]

When you receive an email attachment, look carefully at the three-character extension on the end of the file's name. Items such as JPEG pictures (which use the JPG extension) generally are safe, but there are a number of extensions that indicate the attachment is actually a program that executes when opened, potentially delivering spy-ware or viruses to your computer. Here is a list of file extensions to avoid clicking at all costs if they arrive via email.

.ADE, .ADP, .BAS, .BAT, .CHM, .CMD, .COM, .CPL, .CRT, .EXE, .HLP, .HTA, .INF, .INS, .ISP, .JES, .LNK, .MDA, .MDB, .MDE, .MDZ, .MSC, .MSI, .MSP, .MST, .PCD, .PIF, .REG, .SCR, .SCT, .SHS, .URL, .VBE, .VBS, .WSC, .WSF, and .WSH.

May is Older Americans Month

[US Census Press Releases]

Older Americans Month originated with a presidential proclamation in May, 1963, and has been proclaimed by presidents each year since.

This group accounts for 12% of the total population. By 2050 the group is expected to comprise 21% of the population. The poverty rate for people 65 and older decreased from 2004-2005. 39% of the total annual personal income of people 65 and older comes from Social Security payments.

Interlibrary Loan Frequently Asked Questions

[from Lisa Kelly, Nebraska Library
Commission]



In 2001 the Nebraska Library Commission began working with many of you to provide interlibrary loan services to your customers. Here are some questions that are asked regularly. **It would be a good idea to copy this page and keep it at your reference/ILL desk.**

Is it possible to request VHS, DVD, and Book on Tape through ILL? Yes. There are many libraries that generously lend these materials. On occasion, there are very few possible lenders with policies that prohibit lending.

May we request multiple copies of a book for a book club? Yes. However, we will not be able to place requests for bestsellers, books that have been out for less than one year, or other popular titles, i.e. the Oprah book club. It is best to ask for the number of books you might think you will need from the start so that all your books will arrive at about the same time. Generally book club libraries request 3-7 copies of a title.

How long does an ILL take to arrive at my library? One-two weeks generally. If the book is provided from a library in-state, it will arrive more quickly and if it comes from out-of-state, it may take a little more time. Try to encourage your patrons to ask for items two weeks before they will need them.

Is there such a thing as an ASAP ILL? No. Once a request is in the OCLC system, it is up to the five lending libraries to respond to your request. There isn't anything we are able to do that speeds things along.

Why do we have to let you know when we receive and return items? ILL has its own circulation system to track where items are. Libraries who lend their items need to know when materials have reached their destination and when they have been returned. The process of updating all of these records is part of our daily ILL circulation. Keeping up with ILL records helps make everything run

more smoothly for all the libraries involved in getting materials to you.

What books are too new to request? Any book, fiction or non-fiction that is less than 12 months from its release date. If you are uncertain about a book's publication date, you can check amazon.com or Books in Print. Many libraries restrict lending their newer materials through Interlibrary Loan.

Why won't you accept my request to borrow the Da Vinci Code? Because it is still on the bestseller list and the movie release in May 2006 will increase the popularity of this title and keep it amongst those hard-to-borrow titles. Any book that has recently been a movie is generally on our do not place list as are all bestsellers (fiction and non-fiction), Oprah books, and other popular titles such as the OneBook/One Lincoln selection. Locate Publisher's Weekly Bestseller list on: **www.publishersweekly.com** and click on Best-sellers.

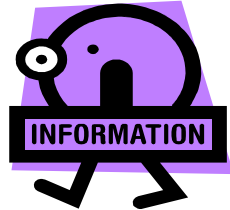
Can I ask for renewals on ILL items? Yes, from most lending libraries. Libraries prefer to be asked for renewals before the due date. If an item has been recalled by the lending library, we will not be able to request more time. When asking for a renewal, please contact the Nebraska Library Commission.

Why must I use the ready@nlc.state.ne.us email address for ILL email? If you send ILL email to an individual email address and that person is sick or on vacation that day, your email will not be tended to in a timely manner. Several staff members take turns answering and responding to the "ready" email account assuring a quick response to your question.

How many people work with Interlibrary Loan at the Nebraska Library Commission? There are seven of us - Belinda Fanning, Beth Goble, Bonnie Henzel, Evelyn Kubert, Julie Pinnell, Lisa Kelly, and Susan Knisely.

**If you have any concerns about our Interlibrary Loan Services, please don't hesitate to ask us.
We are happy to help.**

FYI



NEBASE Elections

The OCLC Members Council delegate and alternate delegate are Mary Johns, Assistant Director of Lincoln City Libraries, and Michael LaCroix, Director of the Creighton University Reinert Alumni Memorial Library.

It's Not Too Early.....

Nominations for the New Members Round Table Beginning Professional and Mentor of the Year are being sought now.

Go to: www.nebraskalibraries.org/NMRT/ann.html for more information and nomination forms.. The awards will be presented at the fall annual NLA/ NEMA conference.

PLAN NOW.....

To attend the Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival, 2006. September 15th is children's day and September 16th is the adult professional conference day. Held in Seward, Nebraska, this popular festival will include authors: Patricia Reilly Giff, Ashley Wolff, Joseph Bruchac, Nikki Grimes and Ted Arnold. Ted Kooser will be the Saturday luncheon speaker. Contact Vikki Gremel, Concordia University in Seward for more information (402-643-7483) or go to their website: <http://www.cune.edu/2005a.asp?durki=2040>

Free DVD's or Videos - "Following the clues: a visit to the doctor and the library."

Funded by the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the 12-minute film follows Alana Williams as she and her grandmother make a doctor's appointment, see the doctor, and find health information at the library. Narrated in English, Spanish, and Sudanese-Nuer, the movie is designed for young children and adults unfamiliar with the US healthcare system. The film is now available at no cost to librarians.



The movie was produced and written by McGoogan Library of Medicine Diversity Project Committee. For information on ordering copies of the film and to view the movie on the Internet, go to <http://www.unmc.edu/library/clues>.

LSTA Grants Awarded To:

- * Lyons Public Library for improved services and technology access. They partnered with Logan Valley Manor and Happy Days Senior Center to help community members find essential information about the Medicare Prescription Insurance program offered by the federal government.
- * Scribner Public Library for a mobile computer lab and senior citizen computer education project. The library will purchase six laptop computers to offer Internet access to more customers, as well as allow for hosting small computer classes for senior citizens.

Upcoming LTA Courses

- * LIBR 1510 Reference Services in Library and Information Environments.
- * LIBR 1610 Introduction to Children and Young Adult Services.

Go to www.ncca.state.ne.us for more information.

The deadline for LTA scholarships is July 1st. Go to www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/scholarship/ltascholarship.html for requirements and the application process.

Golden Sower Winners

K-3. *Substitute Teacher Plans* by Doug Johnson
4-6. *Escaping the Giant Wave* by Peg Kehret
YA. *High Heat* by Carl Deuker

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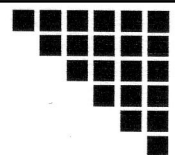
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*Planning

*Leadership

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Worth Checking Out

Looking for some crime novels to add to the collection? Check out Booklist's top ten list at

www.booklistonline.com and scroll down until you see The Year's Best Crime Novels 2006. Full bibliographic information is provided as well as an annotation. Booklist Online is a subscription service but there is some information you can get to without a subscription.

The Nebraska Library Commission sponsors and maintains various mailing lists including the one for Eastern Library System. A mailing list is an automatic list server that broadcasts messages to everyone on the list. You can sign up for the ELS mailing list as almost 400 other people have done or any of the other lists by going to www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/list.html. Also at this site is information on mailing list etiquette. **Often when a message is sent someone wants to reply to the message and instead of replying only to the sender hits the "reply" button so the message goes to the entire list. It pays to read the entire message so you know to whom you should reply.**

We all know that public libraries are a valuable asset to the community. The problem comes in trying to convince others. Mary Kay Nelson, Nebraska Library Commissioner from Holdrege, has developed an easy to use tool to use in demonstrating the economic value of public libraries to our communities. The four-page document includes a survey and a way to figure a return on investment. If you would like to try this process for your library, please call the system office for a copy. [Thanks to Mary Nelson for her work on this tool.]

Two new video tapes are available for loan from the system office.

- *Always a River, Sometimes a Library*

Rick Anderson explores the three ways the library profession is broken, and the four ways to fix it. He uses the Mississippi River as a metaphor for patron behavior, and gives us new and useful ways to think about our patrons.

- *Library Challenges & Opportunities: Library Management Hot Topics*

Experienced library managers and leaders in the field, discuss a series of management-related issues. Both large and small academic and public libraries are represented.

The January 2006 ULC Fast Facts survey queried ULC member directors and deputy directors on the who and how of futures activities in their organizations, with the hope of clarifying what ULC can do to support more futures thinking in the field. Here are a few of our members' "forecasts."

Ten years from now, public libraries will....

- be cultural centers rather than book warehouses or information sites
- still be doing what we do best; books and reading
- continue to be the best and most accessible place for families and young people to receive equitable services
- look more and more like retail and commerce models
- be the public learning/information equivalent of public radio or TV
- be strong leaders and players in community building efforts within the knowledge economy
- connect with their community and with community leaders and those who fail to do so will struggle for funding and meaning
- catalysts for creating community
- shift from "research place" to the "gathering place"
- be a part of the literary success of the community
- develop services that work in a more integrated fashion with public schools, contributing to student success
- be informational change agents

Excerpted from *ULC Exchange*, March 2006
[Seen in *LAD*, April 2006]

Did you know that "62% of adults in the U.S. have public library cards?"
(ALA Office for Research & Statistics)

Eastern Library System Board Minutes
March 17, 2006, Wahoo High School

Present: Dorothy Willis, Matt Rohde (alt.), Carrie Turner, Kenny Oyer, Nina Little (alt.), John Seyfarth, Sam McMullen, Mary Jo Mack, Denise Lawver, Becky Sims, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Judy Coday, Wahoo Public Library director; Bill Beck, Media Specialist, Wahoo High School; Richard Miller, NLC.

Comments: Turner – Arlington PS has had success with their book clubs. Kathy T. suggested a grant for coordinating purchases of multiple copies by media centers and rotating their collection. Little – The Wendy Dean Gallery tea raised over \$1000 for the Valley Public Library. Lawver – the Wine and Dine event raised over \$1500 for the Wahoo Public Library.

Guests: Bill Beck spoke on the 3-year-old Wahoo High School and Junior High School combined library. He is retiring after this school year. Judy Coday talked about the new library and a possible June 1st move-in date. She showed the CW Anderson Award presented to Denise Lawver, children's librarian, for exceptional service to Wahoo children.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 20, 2006, meeting were reviewed. Motion carried to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Reports: The January and February, 2006, reports were reviewed. They will be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Kathy read thank-you notes from Joyce Grass, Tekamah, for support and books; Rose & Joe Schinker for support during Rose's father's death; Francine Canfield, Ralston, for Kathy's presence at their "Better Future for Ralston Day."; From the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Library Foundation for our monetary gift; Senator Hagel's office in response to a letter from Kathy regarding the USA Patriot Act.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Kathy talked about the Snyder Public Library project with Becky Pasco's grad students. Legislative day was a success with 180 people attending. The funding for the NLC databases has been approved by the Legislature. The summer reading program workshop has grown and may be too large for Keene Memorial Library in the future. Grants awarded to ELS members: iPod and mp3 technology grant to Regional Library Systems; Laptop computer training center for seniors grant to Scribner Public Library; Computer lab grant to Lyons Public Library. The book bags with Alex Kava books are available for loan. The Wine Tasting event will be May 5th from 7-9 pm at the Soaring Wings Winery in Springfield. The system fundraiser is \$25 per person with a drawing for a wine basket. Each board member will be sent 10 tickets to sell and will be asked to provide the food. The ELS Annual Meeting is set for June 9th at the Elkhorn Metro Community College Campus.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: The committee presented the nominations of Denise Lawver, Kenny Oyer, Carrie Turner for re-election and Robin Bernstein, Bellevue University, for election. Motion carried.

Technology: The technology plan has been updated. After discussion, it was unanimously approved. The old system computer will be given to Scribner Public Library and the dot matrix printer to Gretna Public Library (a drawing was held.) John Seyfarth will do an article for the newsletter on the proper disposal of computer equipment.

New Business:

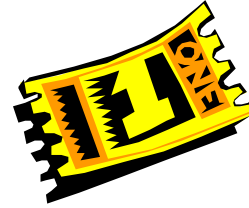
- A. Computer – An old office computer, no longer needed, was upgraded and installed with W2000 by John. A motion was made and seconded to give it to the Waterloo Public Library. Motion carried.
- B. Grants – After review and much discussion the following grants were awarded: Children's – South High School and Gretna Public Library; Adult – Waterloo Public Library and Yutan Public Library. It was moved and seconded to award these grants. Motion carried.
- C. System Survey – There were 21 responses to the survey. The CE and Technology committees will review the results at their next meetings.
- D. Standing Committee on Fundraising – It was moved and seconded to create this new committee. Motion carried. It will become official on July 1, 2006.

Richard Miller passed out a written report and distributed free copies of "Behind the Lines" by Andrew Carroll. We adjourned to take a tour of the new Wahoo Public Library.

Next Meeting: May 19, 2006, Offutt AFB Library (we will need to arrive 15 minutes early)

Respectfully submitted, Becky Sims, Secretary

Upcoming Events



May 24 - Talking Book Borrower & Staff Reception. Keene Memorial Library, Fremont, 1:30 p.m. Contact Dave Oertli, NLC, 800-307-2665; doertli@nlc.state.ne.us

May 25 — Public Library Section/Trustees, Users, & Friends Spring Meetings, LaVista Public Library

June 9— ELS Annual Meeting, Metropolitan Community College (see flyer this issue)

July 10— Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion. Seward Public Library, July 10. (more information will be sent to all graduates & mentors)

July 21— ELS Board Meeting, Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, 9:30 a.m.

August 7—CLICK Meeting, Wahoo Public Library, 9:30 a.m.

August 17—NLC Database Roadshow, Metropolitan Community College, Elkhorn, 9 a.m.—3 p.m..

For more information & to register; www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/roadshow.html

For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.

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